

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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O 101736Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3128

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EXDIS

FOR S/S-EX

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS:HVVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), ZA, OTRA

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT; LIMITATIONS ON USE OF LIVINGSTONE
AIRPORT

REF: STATE 0866; LUSAKA 0862

1. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SENIOR EXPATRIATE OFFICIAL OF DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION AS WELL AS ATC AT LIVINGSTONE AIRPORT REGARDING RUNWAY CONDITIONS THERE. WITHOUT KNOWING PRECISELY CONFIGURATION OF SECRETARY'S AIRCRAFT OR ITS ANTICIPATED WEIGHT LOAD, THEY UNABLE TO GIVE PRECISE ANSWER AS TO WHETHER LANDING/TAKEOFF FROM LIVINGSTONE IS FEASIBLE. HOWEVER, THEY POINT OUT THAT LARGEST AIRCRAFT EVER TO USE LIVINGSTONE WAS AN ALMOST EMPTY COMET. NORMALLY BAC 111 AND BOEING 737 ARE LARGEST AIRCRAFT THAT FLY INTO LIVINGSTONE. SENIOR CAD OFFICIAL VENTURED OPINION THAT 707 WITH MINIMUM LOAD AND FUEL MIGHT BE ABLE TO USE LIVINGSTONE BUT AS NO 707 HAS APPARENTLY EVER LANDED THERE, NO EXPERENTIAL DATA IS AVAILABLE.

2. SENIOR CAD OFFICIAL HAS PROVIDED US WITH FOLLOWING DATA WHICH HE SAID ARE RELEVANT TO SITUATION AT LIVINGSTONE AIRPORT:

A. ELEVATION - 3,250 FEET

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B. REFERENCE TEMPERATURE - 29.7 CENTIGRADE

C. AVERAGE APRIL TEMPERATURE - 30 C (MAXIMUM), 19.7 C (MINIMUM)

D. RUNWAY LENGTH - 2,292 METERS

C. RUNWAY WIDTH - 61 METERS

D. AZ - 09/27

E. SIWL - 18,744 KILOS

F. MTWL - 23,587 KILOS

G. MAXIMUM TIRE PRESSURE - 7.73 KILOS PER SQ CM

H. MAXIMUM TAXI WEIGHT - 36,285 KILOS

I. SURFACE - TARMAC (SEE NOTE BELOW)

J. TAKE OFF RUN - 7,320 FEET RID FEET

K. LANDING DISTANCE - 7,520 FEET

NOTE: SOURCE CONFIDZI THAT RUNWAY IS IN RIPPLED CONDITION AND THAT SOME PORTIONS WERE RECENTLY UNDER RECONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR AND MAY BE UNUSABLE.

3. LIVINGSTONE AIRPTNT ATC CONFIRMED THAT MTW OF 36,285 KILOS IS MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE FOR COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. IMPLIED THAT THIS PLUS OTHER LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OF TAKE OFFS AND LANDINGS AT LIVINGSTONE INTENDED TO MINIMIZE WEAR AND TEAR ON RUNWAYS AND THAT CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES MIGHT, ON ONE GUME BASIS, CONSIDER WAIVING LIMITATION FOR A DIPLOMATIC FLIGHT. WE HAVE NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS POINT WITH CIVIL AVIATION HEADQUARTERS IN LUSAKA BUT WILL ATTEMPT TO DO SO WHEN OFFICES REOPEN ON MONDAY.

4. WE UNDERSTAND ALSO THAT LIVINGSTONE LACKS MOVABLE STEPS AND GROUND POWER EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR 707 AIRCRAFT.

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5. WE ARE STILL AWAITING FROM CHIEF OF PROTOCOL PARTICULARS ON LIVINGSTONE AIRPORT REQUESTED DURING AMBASSADOR'S FIRST MEETING WITH HIM. WE WILL CONTINUE PRESS HIM FOR THESE AND WILL REPORT ANYCATA NOT ALREADY SUBMITTED PARA 2 ABOVE. MEANWHILE, WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DEPARTMENT COULD LET US KNOW BY COB MONDAY MORNING IF THERE ARE ANY SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL DATA REQUIRED IN ORDER FOR AIR FORCE TO MAKE DETERMINATION ON USE OF 707 FOR LIVINGSTONE STOP.

6. EXDIS CAPTION MAY BE REMOVED WHEN VISIT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED.
WILKOWSKI

NOTE BY OC/T: REFTEL AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 APR 1976
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Disposition Remarks:
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